



## OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent (Year A) 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020

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**Sunday Reflection** – How are you getting on with your Lenten promises? It is now about half-way on the journey! This is the springtime of the Church's year. It is a time for renewal and re-birth. If new life is to emerge, we must prepare the ground by doing some spiritual weeding and removing the obstacles to growth. The seeds of new life will need refreshing water to nourish and sustain the emerging life. So, the focus this Sunday is on "thirst" and "Water". We hear about the Israelites going through the desert, desperate for water and complaining about their plight. God provided water for their needs through the agency of Moses. In the Gospel we see Jesus as the new Moses, giving the people something infinitely better – "living water". In his touching encounter with the Samaritan woman, Jesus recognises the thirst for genuine love in every human heart. We all thirst for something that will satisfy our deepest longings but being so desperate we sometimes search in the wrong places. In his dialogue with the Samaritan woman, Jesus says, "If you only knew the gift of God"! God alone can satisfy the thirst in the human heart. He offers us the gift of 'living water' in the person of Jesus Christ, and from Jesus we draw the water of the Spirit. As Jesus said to the woman – "but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again". This "spring of living water" promised by Jesus is indeed the Holy Spirit, the very life of God.

**Season of Lent** – Lent is traditionally a Penitential season of Renewal in the Church leading to Holy Week and Easter, a time of Fasting, Prayer, and Almsgiving. Hopefully it is a time of "Growing in Faith". During Lent "Alleluia" is omitted in the Liturgy, and we don't adorn the Altar or Sanctuary with Flowers, as well as restricting the use of the Organ and other musical instruments. We hope and pray all Parishioners will have a good and Holy Lent.

**Way of the Cross** – In the Church on every Friday during Lent at 7pm.

**Coronavirus** – We have been advised not to minister the chalice in the present climate. Please receive Holy Communion in the Hand' rather than 'on the Tongue' and consume the Host before leaving the Minister. Retaining our reverence for the Sacrament let us help and support one another in Receiving the Holy Sacrament.

**At the Sign of Peace** – Let us give a gentle bow or exchange a word of 'Peace' and refrain from 'shaking hands'. Let us also observe the guidelines outlined by the Government and NHS and 'Wash Hands' frequently. We care for one another and ourselves.

**First Holy Programme** – Next Session will be on this Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 9am. A Practice for Reconciliation will be on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March from 3.45pm to 5pm (Parents to arrive at 4.30pm). The Celebration of Sacrament of Reconciliation will be on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 10am.

**Confirmation** – Next Session is on this Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March.

**The Feast of St. Patrick** – Patron of Ireland is on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March. The Feast of St. Joseph, spouse of Blessed Virgin Mary is on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March. Masses at 10am & 6.30pm.

Vigil Mass: Sat 6.30pm  
Sunday 8.30am  
10am  
(Spanish) 11.15am  
12.15pm  
7pm  
Mon – Sat 10am + 6.30pm

### Sacrament of Confession

Mon - Fri 6.15 – 6.30pm  
Saturday 10.45 – 11.15am  
6.00 – 6.30pm

### Parish Office Opening Hrs

Mon – Fri 9am to 5pm  
(Lunch 1.30pm – 2.30pm)

### Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

After 10am Weekday Masses

Rosary: Wednesdays 10.30am,  
followed by Tea/Coffee in the  
Founders Room.

Legion of Mary – Every  
Tuesday at 7pm in the Library.  
New members are welcome!

### Contemplative Prayer Group:

Will meet on Monday .....  
evenings from 2<sup>nd</sup> March at  
7.15pm in the Servite Chapel.

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### Saints Days

Tue 17<sup>th</sup> – St Patrick  
Wed 18<sup>th</sup> – St Cyril of  
Jerusalem  
Thu 19<sup>th</sup> – St Joseph

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### Requiem Mass:

Fr. Patrick M O'Connell OSM  
on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March at  
10am